

The Daily Sun

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H. H. McCREARY, Editor and Publisher

J. R. MERCHANT, Business Manager

F. M. PREWITT, Supt. Composing Rooms

Office in Haymans Block.

213 W. Main Street, S. Telephone 219

The Daily Sun, published every morning except Monday, delivered by carrier in the city, or mailed to any part of the United States, postage free, for \$6 a year; \$2.50 six months; \$1.25 three months; or 60 cents for five weeks—strictly in advance.

Reading notices in local column 10 cents a line for first insertion, and 5 cents for each additional insertion.

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The Twice-a-Week Sun is an eight page, forty column paper, published every Monday and Thursday, and contains all the news of the week, local, State and general, and will be mailed, postage free, to any part of the United States, for \$1.00 a year—in advance.

All advertising bills become due after first appearance of advertisement, unless otherwise stipulated in contract. Parties not known to us will be required to pay for advertising in advance. Address, THE DAILY SUN, Gainesville, Florida.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

The Sun cannot guarantee the insertion of advertisements in the Sunday issue unless the copy is handed in early Friday morning. This also applies to changes in advertisements already running in the paper.

HON. W. A. BLOUNT.

The Pensacola Journal has the following to say of Col. Blount's withdrawal from the Senatorial race:

"The withdrawal of Hon. W. A. Blount from the race for the United States Senatorship, as announced in The Journal yesterday morning, simplifies the contest somewhat, although the situation still remains a complicated one.

"In reading the reasons which Mr. Blount gives for his withdrawal, everyone must be struck with the frank, candid, and altogether unusual tone in which he states and discusses them. And this is all the more striking to those who happen to know, as The Journal knows, of the widespread and unexpected assurance of support which the eminent Pensacolian had received within the past six weeks.

"There will be some, no doubt, whose conception of public duty and patriotic motive is limited by a narrow intellect and a still narrower spirit, who will say that Mr. Blount, finding his election improbable, gave the reasons which he states as the easiest method of getting out of a losing fight. But those who may think that do not know the man. As a matter of fact, no man in the race had, at this stage, a better prospect for success than Mr. Blount, and as another matter of fact the reasons which he gives for withdrawing constitute in themselves the most effective evidence that they are honest reasons honestly stated. It is the very frankness and candor of the man—unusual under such circumstances—that puts the stamp of sincerity on his announcement.

"Florida contains no citizen whose ability would be felt to greater effect in the United States Senate than Mr. Blount, and at the same time there is not a man in the State who, by temperament, training, and inclination, is less fitted to make a personal appeal for support than is W. A. Blount. A giant in intellect, strong in conviction, and sure of purpose, he can support the personal or political ambitions of a friend with energy and effect, but when it comes to a question of appealing for himself he has yet to learn the first lesson in the undertaking. This fact, coupled with a physical inability to prosecute a continued campaign—an inability which he discovered only after entering the contest—constitutes, as he says, the real reason for his withdrawal.

"After reading his manly statement, the friends of Mr. Blount have still greater reason for the confidence which they had in him and they will have still greater regret that the conditions which he describes make it necessary for him to withdraw."

You may find what you are looking for through a want ad. in The Sun.

WALPOLE IS GRATEFUL.

Frank Walpole, editor of The Manatee Record and a strong supporter of Broward in the last Senatorial primary, will support Senator Tallaferra for re-election. Walpole is one of the brightest editors in the State, and was appointed treasurer of Manatee county by Governor Broward. Now that Broward is no longer "in the saddle" it is highly probable that he will find many of his former supporters on the other side of the political fence in the next primary. The Sun never did support Broward for a State office, but we like him personally, and had he befriended us as he has some people we know we would at least refrain from opposing him. This editor has never been truthfully accused of ingratitude, and he hopes never to be.—Gainesville Sun.

The editor of The Record supported Broward when he was not "in the saddle," and gave him a support that few other men in the State gave him. We also supported him for United States Senator two years ago. Broward appointed us county treasurer, which we appreciated, but if the matter of continued support is to be put on a basis of what we have done for Broward or what Broward has done for us the ledger will be found with a heavy balance in our favor. Politically we owe no man a cent, but there are those in the State of Florida who are heavily in our debt. "Ingratitude" is not in our make-up. We have doubly paid for everything we have received at the hands of our friends politically, and 'tis not because Broward is out that we shall not support him, but because we believe Tallaferra is in position to do the greater service. Personally we have always liked Broward and think as much of him now as ever.—Manatee Record.

TO FRUIT GROWERS.

Press Bulletin No. 135, by B. F. Floyd, which has just been issued by the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, treats of an important subject under the caption of "The Protection of Citrus Trees From Drought," as follows:

"During the last month (November), the drought has been causing damage to citrus groves in different parts of the State. Some groves, however, are being irrigated, and in other groves different forms of mulch are being used to conserve the moisture. But, in too many cases, the growers have been leaving their groves alone, hoping for the rain that was long in coming. As a result bad conditions have developed.

"The leaves and small branches have withered; the fruit has become stunted and in some cases is falling; and the trees, being weakened generally, are in a condition to be further injured by diseases such as wither-tip, and the stem-end rot which has caused the loss of much fruit. Another result of the drought is a splitting of the fruit. The poor supply of moisture has allowed the fruit to mature its rind, more or less. With an increased supply of moisture, the interior makes a more rapid growth, and the resulting pressure causes the splitting.

"It is well known that the citrus tree is giving off moisture all the time. The under sides of the leaves, the green stems, and the fruits are covered with minute openings, known as stomates or breathing pores. These are so constructed that the state of the plant controls their opening and closing. It is through these that the water vapor passes out, and the exchange of gases between the air and the plant occurs. In time of drought, these openings close more or less, so that the amount of moisture given off nearly corresponds to the amount supplied by the roots. During and after wet weather, the openings will be wide open, and large amounts of water will be given off. Experiments with different kinds of fruit have shown that the leaves of fruiting trees may draw upon the fruits for moisture in case the tree is suffering from lack of water. This accounts for the stunting and dropping of the oranges during the late drought.

"The question uppermost in the mind of the grower who has no irrigation is how to conserve the moisture in his grove. Without irrigation, the grower must resort to some form of mulch. This may be either a dust mulch, or a mulch of dead weeds, grass, vines, leaves, or moss.

"To obtain a dust mulch the grower plows under the grass and weeds, and follows this with shallow cultivation.

once every week or two during the dry weather, and if possible after each shower. On April 18 and 24, 1908, the Experiment Station made a determination of the difference in the moisture contained in cultivated and in uncultivated land. The determinations were made for each foot, to the depth of four feet. It was found that there was a difference of 175.2 tons of water, equivalent to one and a half inches of rain-fall, in favor of the cultivated land. In groves suffering from a lack of moisture, a dense growth of weeds and grass should not be allowed, because these plants are continually pumping from the soil the water that should be conserved.

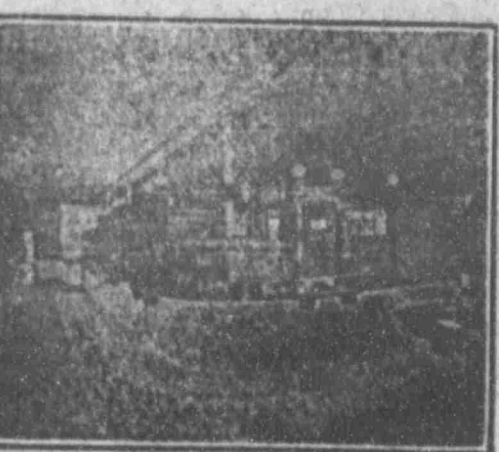
"The other system of mulching is that of covering around the trees with large quantities of vines, moss, leaves, weeds, or grass. This not only protects the soil from drying out, but also provides material from which humus may be formed. It has been found that where soil contains plenty of humus, less cultivation is required. In case young trees are beginning to show the effect of the drought before the mulch has been applied, it may be profitable to moisten the soil around the trees just before applying the mulch. During the late drought, young citrus trees on the Agricultural Experiment Station ground which were beginning to wilt where given a few buckets of water and mulched with moss and vines. They immediately revived, and have since showed no sign of wilting.

"There are objections to both of these methods. In the fall of the year, if a rain should occur, the plowing under of the weeds and grass and the subsequent cultivation may cause the trees to put forth new growth. This may prove disastrous if cold weather comes on before the growth has had time to harden. The objection to the other system of mulching is that the mulch being dry would easily catch fire from a lighted match dropped accidentally, a cigar stub, or a wad from a discharged gun. But if the grower does not have irrigation, and would conserve the moisture in his soil, he must resort to one or both of these methods."

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